GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:256
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Water Treatment Plants
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes in operation for setting up treatment plants for environment pollution control as well as plantation from treated water in urban and rural areas of the country;

(b) the expenditure incurred on setting up of treatment plants as well as carrying out plantations during the last three years and the current year along with the achievement as a result thereof, State/ UT-wise including Rajasthan;

(c) whether the Government is taking/ proposes to take any special step in environment regulation sector in urban areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) It is the responsibility of the State Governments/concerned local bodies to set up proper facilities for collection of sewage and installation of sewage treatment plants for control of pollution of rivers & other water bodies. This Ministry has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and NGRBA (National Ganga River Basin Authority) programmes on cost sharing basis between Central & State Governments. Various pollution abatement schemes taken-up under the programmes, inter-alia include interception & diversion of raw sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation facilities, electric/improved wood crematoria, etc. The NGRBA programme along with work of Ganga & its tributaries is with Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR,RD&GR) from 01/08/2014 onwards.

The details of funds released to various State Governments for implementation of sanctioned works under NRCP/NGRBA programmes and the sewage treatment capacity created under these programmes during the last three years and current year, State-wise are at Annexure-I & II respectively.

State Governments, apart from their own budgetary allocation, are also accessing financial assistance for creation of sewerage infrastructure, including sewage treatment plants, in various cities/towns under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) programme of Ministry of Urban Development, Namami Gange programme of MoWR,RD&GR and Swatch Bharat Abhiyan (Gramin) programme of Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation.

Industries discharging their effluents are required to set up individual effluent treatment plants to comply with the prescribed standards. For cluster of small scale industries, the Ministry is providing financial assistance for setting up Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs). During the last three years and current financial year, an amount of Rs.29.12 crore has been provided by the Ministry for setting up of CETPs.

The State Governments are advised to re-use the treated waste water to the maximum extent possible for various purposes like horticulture, irrigation, plantation, pisciculture, industrial use, etc.

(c) & (d)Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued directions under Section 18 1(b) of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 in April, 2015 to all State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees to make mandatory for local/urban bodies to set up sewage treatment plants of adequate capacity and provide underground sewerage system to cover the entire local/urban areas as well as enforcement of consent management in line with standards for sewage treatment. CPCB has also issued directions to 178 towns under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for proper treatment and disposal of sewage. Steps have also been taken by CPCB to promote low waste and no waste concept leading to Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) by grossly water polluting industries, particularly those located on the river banks.

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